



PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 016866-001503

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

T. William Hutchens et al.

Application No.: 09/123,253

Filed: July 27, 1998

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS
FOR THE DESORPTION AND
IONIZATION OF ANALYTES

Examiner: Lyle Alexander

Art Unit: 1743

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

This IDS is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

Please charge the IDS fee of \$180 to Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

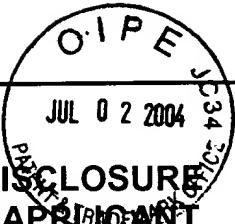
Respectfully submitted,



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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO | | JUL 02 2004 U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Application Number | 09/123,253 |
| | | | | Filing Date | July 27, 1998 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | T. William Hutchens |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1743 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Lyle Alexander |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Attorney Docket Number | 016866-001503 |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 | | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | | | | |
| | 1 | GB | 2236185 | A | 03-27-1991 | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 2 | GB | 2236185 | B | 03-23-1994 | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (**optional**). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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|--|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | Application Number | 09/123,253 |
| | | Filing Date | July 27, 1998 |
| | | First Named Inventor | T. William Hutchens |
| | | Art Unit | 1743 |
| | | Examiner Name | Lyle Alexander |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
| | | Attorney Docket Number | 016866-001503 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.